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REMARKS

Claim 11-15 are under consideration. Claim 11 is amended to further define the present invention. Claims 14 and 15 are added to define certain preferred aspects of the present invention. Full support for these claims is found, *inter alia*, on page 4, lines 19-24, inclusive. Non-elected Claims 1-10 are withdrawn from consideration and have been cancelled as required in the Office Action.

The Specification is amended to provide a new Title as APPARATUS FOR MAKING INTERFOLDED PRODUCT.

The rejection of Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as anticipated by Hermach is not warranted, and is hereby traversed. Hermach fails to disclose each and every structural limitation of the claim.

In particular, independent Claim 11 calls for apparatus for interfolding at least two sheets of material that have been previously folded by folding boards or like devices, thereby forming a web of interfolded sheets of material. Independent Claim 11 expressly defines an interfolder for interfolding the respective sheets of material together, thereby forming a web of the interfolded sheets of material. Hermach, as can be seen in Fig. 5, clearly does not teach the interfolding of sheets of material. Rather, the sheets of Hermach are newspaper sheets that are merely stacked one on top of the other. This clearly is not interfolding, where the apparatus must provide internal timing and coordination with different paper handling paths so that individual prefolded sheets are interfolded with the preceding and the following sheets (see, for example, applicants FIGURE 4). The apparatus shown by Hermach cannot effect interfolding.

The rejection of claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Hermach also is not warranted, and is hereby traversed. Hermach fails to teach or suggest apparatus for interfolding at least two sheets of material, including an interfolder for interfolding respective sheets of material together, to form a web of the interfolded sheets of material. Hermach, as can be seen in Fig. 5 clearly does not teach or suggest the interfolding of sheets of material. Rather, the sheets of Hermach are merely stacked one on top of the other. This is not interfolding. One of ordinary skill seeking to improve the newspaper folding apparatus would

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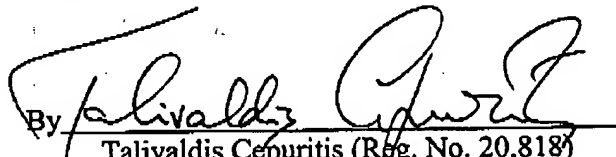
not have even considered interfolding because interfolding clearly is not suitable for newspaper assembly. For interfolding to occur, the apparatus must provide internal timing and coordination for separate paper handling paths so that individual sheets are interfolded with the preceding and the following sheets.

Newly added claims 14 and 15 are readily distinguishable over Hermach for the same reasons as advanced hereinabove vis-a-vis claims 12 and 13. In addition, Hermach neither shows nor suggests knife rolls or perforating rolls for the interfolded sheets of material. In Hermach, the cutting cylinder 37 shown in Fig. 2 only separates the individual, folded newspapers.

The present amendment to the application and the accompanying discussion pointing out the deficiencies of the applied reference are believed to place the application in a condition for allowance. The present claims are readily distinguishable from the applied reference. Early passing of this application to issue is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER RULE 111 is being transmitted by facsimile transmission to Fax No. 571 273-8300 on January 6, 2006.


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